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May 16 1956

Mr. Conrad L. Wirth
Director, National Park Service
Department of Interior
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Wirth:

I have studied the letter of May 1, 1956 from Mr. R. E. Scoyen, Acting Director, relative to transfer of jurisdiction over a strip of land located in the Langley, Virginia, area. Members of my staff have further discussed the questions involved with representatives of your Service, the Bureau of Public Roads and the General Services Administration.

The strip is a right-of-way approximately 60 feet wide extending from Route 123 north through property now owned by the Bureau of Public Roads, and which they have agreed to release to us. It is the strip donated as Parcel 2 in the deed of gift through which it was acquired by the National Park Service from the latter owner in 1936.

Although our site planning has not reached the final detailed stage, under any of the tentative proposals the CIA headquarters building would lie directly across the strip of land involved.

We are now before the Congress for an appropriation and intend to commence our site development as soon as funds may become available. For purposes of our own construction it will be necessary for us to prepare access roads within the site. The existing road does not, in the opinion of our engineers, have the proper foundation nor load-bearing capacity to accommodate the heavy traffic which construction of both our headquarters building and the George Washington Memorial Parkway will generate. Your Service would, of course, be authorized the use of any roads we establish within the site for access from Route 123 to the northern boundary of the site, which is contiguous with the proposed right-of-way for the Parkway, during the period of Parkway construction.

The General Services Administration has expressed a willingness, if the National Park Service will declare the strip excess under the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, to transfer it to the Central Intelligence Agency.

Currently we are engaged in a study with the National Park Service and the Bureau of Public Roads to determine the exact location of an interchange south of the proposed site, which would afford access to and from the property for occupants of the CIA installation and the Bureau of Public Roads Research Station. At such time as this location is finally settled, so that the width and bounds of the northern boundary of the strip of land in question can be clearly determined, we request that you declare excess this strip. Pending formal transfer, which must await this determination, we request that you reconsider the position expressed in Mr. Keegan's May 1 letter and, if you agree with this solution, confirm our understanding.

Sincerely,

L. R. White
Deputy Director

OGC:RP/MS

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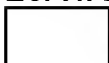
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